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whether they would get grants, having regard to the stringent provisions of the present Code, and they needed specific instructions as to the lines on which they should conduct their schools. The Member prayed that a conference of Managers should be convened for the purpose.

Dewan:—The Director hopes to convene such conferences when he goes out on inspection.

Elementary Education should be made compulsory in towns.

Mr. T. A. Gopala Pye (Member, T. I C. Alwaye) said that the present condition of the generality of the people of the State was not satisfactory and that progress in their social, moral and economic conditions could be achieved only if education was made compulsory. He pointed out that rapid advance was made in these directions by the people of America, Germany and Baroda, where education was compulsory. The Member therefore urged the desirability of introducing compulsory elementary education in the towns at least.

The Member also referred to the difficulty experienced by the student population in the matter of obtaining the Government text books. The supply of books was not sufficient to meet the demand and the agents and booksellers sold the books at exhorbitant rates. He requested that the books should be sold at cost price.

The Dewan then invited the views of some of the other Members in the matter.

Mr. T. Kumara Pillai (Member, Kalkulam taluk) said that the Government contractor sold books at reasonable rates, but his sub-agents had their own way. High rates had to be paid in the mofussil stations. He proposed that the business might be entrusted to the Taluk or Anchal authorities. If this was not feasible, the headmasters or managers of schools might be entrusted with this work.

Mr. K. M. Mammen Mappila (Member, Thiruvella taluk) said that the system of the sale of Government publications through agents would not work well. The business might be given to the head-masters of the Government as well as the Private schools.

Mr. P. M. Chacko, B. A. (Member, T. I. C., Kottayam) said that he agreed with Mr. Mammen Mappilla in his views.

Mr. M. M. Verghese (Member, Trading Classes, Kottayam) proposed that it might do well if the sale was done through the Anchal offices.

Dewan's reply.—The matter of the sale of books will be considered. There is hardly any necessity in Travancore for

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compulsion to send boys to the schools. Our difficulty just now is to find space for the boys who come for admission. Compulsory education is needed for places where people are backward and unwilling. There can hardly be any need for it here.

Measures for the advancement of the Malayalam Language and Literature.

Mr. A. Palpu, B. A. (Member, Nominated) stated that it was the duty of every State to promote its Vernacular. Literature, for the language of a people represented its genius. The progress of the people was consistent with the patriotic development of the literature of the mother-tongue, as was the case with the German Empire and more prominently with Japan. Travancore was the largest political unit where Malayalam was the prevailing tongue, and as such, it was only just that Malayalam Literature should make its first claim on the State and that the claim should be generously admitted by the Government. In the opinion of the Member, two requirements had to be kept in view in the State encouragement of Malayalam. They were (1) to preserve whatever in it was best and most characteristic of its tradition and culture, and (2) to adapt it successfully to modern requirements and to bring it into line with the altered habits, ideals and lines of thought of the people. To realize these two objects, the Member suggested that (*a*) the classics of Malayalam should be published in good editions, (*b*) conspicuous literary work in Malayalam, should be rewarded by the State in appropriate ways, (*c*) a search should be made for old Malayalam manuscripts and works, and they should be published when obtained, (*d*) a central Malayalam library of books and manuscripts should be founded and maintained, (*e*) grants-in-aid should be given for the publication of works adapting Malayalam to modern purposes, and (*f*) the publication of a Malayalam-Malayalam Dictionary on approved philological and phonetic lines, embracing not merely the written but the spoken tongue also, including archaic, colloquial, vulgar and dialectical variations of the language.

The Member also suggested that a Committee of Malayalam Literature be appointed to advise the Government in the above matters.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

60. Admission should be given to the Ealavas in schools without regard to caste or creed, just as the Christians and Mahomedans who have been given these privileges.

Mr. Untaman Krishnan (Member, Nominated) stated that the Ealavas were not admitted in some of those schools which had been opened to them by the Government Notifications. As an instance, the Member cited the case of a girls' school at Puthiakavoo in Machanthurithu Muri, Vadakekara Proverthy. The complaint of the Ealavas in this matter did not meet with a favourable reply and they were directed to seek

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